

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held at the Gild Hall on June 28, 1976 with Chairman, Thomas Colgan presiding,

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as circulated.

The Trustees financial report was read and a copy is on file. A new development concerning the sewer assessment has taken place; therefore, Arden will not be required to pay the \$15,000. charge for our sanitary district. This means that our reserve will grow. The sanitary fee for each leaseholder may be somewhat greater. This is the sewer use tax we all pay. The report of the Trustees was accepted.

Report of the Board of Assessors by Carl Von Dreele.

First 6,500 square feet	\$36.90 per 1000 Sq.F.
Above 6,500 square feet	22.60 per 1000 Sq.F.

Base rental rates were computed from a return rate of 6% on land values estimated to \$4000 for 6,500 square feet and \$18,000 for one acre.

Application of the base rental rates is modified under the "domicile rule" which has been amended to read as follows: "The base rent for any lot which, for the purpose of producing income, contains more than one domicile in the form of separate dwellings or apartment, shall be equal to the rent at the '6,500 sq. ft.' rate times the number of such domiciles, or the rent at the '6,500 sq. ft.' rate for the entire lot, whichever is the lesser. All land in excess of the '6,500 sq. ft.' rate times the number of domiciles shall be subject to the 'above 6,500sq. ft. rate.'"

The factors to be added to base rent were continued without change:

1. lots adjacent to the Arden Forest or Sherwood Forest	10%
2. lots fronting on the Arden Forest or Sherwood Forest (i.e. across an intervening road)	5%
3. lots adjacent to or fronting on any of the Greens	5%
4. lots being used commercially, either under commercial zoning or as a non-conforming use in a residential area	75%

The adopted rate structure is expected to produce approximately \$111 M in rental income compared with \$105 M for the preceding year.

The report of the Board of Assessors was accepted.

The Auditing report was presented by Alton Dahl.

The committee studied the records of the Village and convinced itself that the report of Carl VonDreele, the auditor, is accurate and well done.

All committees of the Village spent sums quite consistent with their budgets for this fiscal year. The combination of a budgeted surplus with a tax bill almost \$5,000. less than expected allowed the Village to end the year with a net income of \$12,852.07.

The Auditing Committee suggests that the Civic Committee should put the Municipal Street Aid Fund in an interest bearing savings account.

The report on motion was accepted.



Budget Committee: William Press, Chairmain, reported that an organizational meeting had been held.

Civic Committee report by Warren Hoffman:

The committee has held two meetings since March Town Assembly, including a complete inspection of the town's roads.

Now that the School and County tax rates have been established, the amount of money which can be spent on major road improvement is known. We are currently obtaining estimates of the cost of work on Pond Road, Millers Road, Woodland, Mill Lane and several small fire lanes as well as small repair projects. Work will start this summer.

All playground equipment and benches are in a good state of repair. The climbing tree on the Arden Green was removed at the request of the insurance inspector. Any resident noticing a dangerous situation should notify the Committee immediately so that it can be repaired.

Report on Motion accepted.

Community Planning Committee report by Ethel Monfort:

The committee has started work on a comprehensive plan for Arden, and has obtained part-time help from the State Planning Office. Stephen Bourassa is a student at the University of Delaware in city planning and landscaping. He will be interviewing residents of Arden to find out what we all want to do about the future of Arden. He will have a letter of introduction signed by Cy Liberman. Please cooperate with him.

The Trustees and Community Planning Committee will be sending a letter shortly to all leaseholder abutting town forests, paths, etc. asking them for their cooperation when inspection is made of boundaries and entrances to the woods.

A beautiful heavy oak table and benches have been made for the town by Dick Florschutz and Joad Kazan. The committee would like them installed at a suitable place near the old swimming pool. A motion will be made under new business.

The report of the committee was accepted.

Registration Committee reported 411 voters.

Safety Committee report by Shaul Gladstone

The third reading of ordinances 8, 9, and 10 will be conducted under old business.

A Safety Committee action memo has been prepared, including the above ordinances, and will be distributed shortly. It briefly describes all Arden ordinances, and solicits your assistance in enforcing them.

As part of this enforcement, an active patrol program has been instituted. We are equipped with radio equipment, and an efficient patrol requires 5 people. It is impossible for the Safety committee alone to do the above more than at rather infrequent intervals, and we therefore request that volunteers please submit their names to us immediately. Our procedure will be to have a central CB unit set up, with 2 patrol cars out. Each will be manned by one Arden constable and one volunteer.



Active enforcement will be done by the constable, while the volunteer will man the radio equipment. The last patrol by the constables only was a marked success.

Individuals have been approached by the committee with respect to moving certain mailboxes which act as obstructions to proper visibility. A spirit of cooperation was voiced by all, and it is expected that prompt action will be taken.

Radar traps have been instituted by the State Police at our insistence, and local traps will be set up as well.

Many signs have been stolen or knocked down by vandals. These are being replaced, but our small budget is severely strained.

The report was accepted.

The Buzz Ware Village Center Committee report was made by Marjorie van Gulick.

The painting is almost completed. Policies for the center have been formalized. Programs at the Village center have increased and it is now used nearly every evening.

The Arden quilt will be hung on the stage in the fall.

They would like to request approval that a portion of the yearly budget - approximately \$100 - be used as seed money to buy minor items of equipment and material for the Village Center.

On motion the report accepted.

Advisory Committee was the same as the committee reports.

75th Anniversary Committee report by Carolyn Liberman.

We are collecting names and addresses of former villagers and a card file is being kept for future reference. If you have any additions, please give them to Mary Morley.

The committee has earmarked \$100 to have copies made of a selection of those otherwise irreplaceable photographs for a permanent archives. Virginia Shaw is the master archivist. Take a picture of your house and of your family and give it to Virginia Shaw for our collection. The historic walking tours that this committee instituted are continuing thanks to public interest and willingness of volunteer guides. To finance the year-long birthday celebration, the Town Assembly advanced \$1,000. We have repaid \$600, which means all that fun and partying cost us only \$400. Of course, proceeds from the sale of all commemorative items will go to the Village of Arden treasury.

The report was accepted.

School Trustee report that Mt. Pleasant lowered the school tax by .10 under duress. There is some action in state legislature that may make desegregation necessary by 1977. There is to be a 13 member statewide school board of trustees and Mt. Pleasant will have one member.



A motion was made and passed unanimously that the Town Assembly thank Beverly Barnett for the album quilt that she planned, started, and got many people enthusiastic about helping her.

Ordinance 8- Dog Control on motion was adopted

Ordinance 9- Mini Bikes on motion was adopted.

Ordinance 10-Public Utilities was amended as follows:

- 1- A public utility shall be defined as any installation having anything to do with communication equipment, or the distribution or collection of gas, electricity, water or sewage.
- 4- All public utilities shall provide proper protection of their facilities to insure that access to said facilities by unauthorized persons is made as difficult as can be reasonably expected.

Ordinance 10-Public Utilities was adopted as amended.

A motion was made and passed that the tables and benches made and donated by Joad Kazan and Dick Florschutz be put in the old swimming pool area with the idea of creating a park area there.

It was pointed out that it would be difficult to control the parking on Hillside Road and the abuse of the area, but it was decided to try it for a time.

The request by the Buzz Ware Village Center to use \$100 of their appropriation for seed money for minor items of equipment, etc. on motion was approved.

Resolution that the Town Assembly plan a celebration for the 80th anniversary of Arden's founding was approved.

The following action was taken on the filling of land on the flood plain on the Naamans creek across from Arden:

Whereas an Ardentown leaseholder has caused a considerable amount of landfill to be placed on a parcel of land in the Naaman's Creek flood plain near Marsh Road and Chestnut Road and

"Whereas there is an ordinance forbidding filling land in the flood plains of New Castle County, and whereas, this filling damages Arden lands now, therefore;

"Be it resolved that the Village of Arden is opposed to granting any exception to the ordinance involving a lot on Naamans Creek."

The Town Assembly of Arden, hereby, instructs the Planning Committee to notify New Castle County of this stand.

A motion was made and passed that the Field Theatre be officially designated as the Frank Stephens Memorial Theatre.

The Chairman has been asked to assign someone to study feasibility of the town doing its own trash collection and to report to the September meeting.

Mr. Colgan requested that the Civic Committee undertake this study.

A resolution was passed that a letter of sympathy be sent to the families of Ruth Roberts, Charles Southwell, and Margaret Saye.

A. Barnes King and Thomas Stapleford were sworn in as constables by Mr. Colgan, in the presence of the Town Assembly.

It was felt that by naming parks, buildings, etc. we are not honoring many of residents who gave so much of themselves during their life time.

A motion was made not to name things after people. This motion was defeated.

It was suggested that perhaps we could get to be better neighbors-not a formal group, but to be aware of the needs of those around us.

Report from The Arden Tax Study Committee:

The full committee met eight times and the sub committee met five times from late last summer to June 24, 1976.

Data was collected and studied which could be used to compare the Arden system of taxation with the County tax system.

In accordance with the June 23, 1975 motion establishing this committee, an open meeting of the Town Assembly will be held on Sunday, September 19, 1976 at 2 P.M. subject to approval of this Assembly, at which time findings of this Committee will be presented for discussion.

The Town Assembly approved the call for an open meeting, not a Town Assembly, on Sunday, September 19, 1976 at 2 P.M. in the Gild Hall.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Morley*  
Mary Morley  
Secretary